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MRS. D. A. INWOOD'S

BOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS

FOR HER

FIVE MEASURE SYSTEM OF

DRESS CUTTING,

FOR CUTTING

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S DRESSES, BASQUES, BOY'S CLOTHING, AND GENTLEMEN'S SHIRTS.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by Mrs. D. A. Inwood, in the Clerk's Office of the Dist. Court of the Dist. of Mass.

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1863.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

I, having worked as a practical Dress Maker for over 20 years, and learned the various systems now in use, and taught one of them for the last three years, seeing the necessity of a more perfect system, I now offer mine to the public and only ask a fair trial, as I am confident of its being pronounced the most perfect system ever invented. I deem further remarks unnecessary, as it will speak for itself.

I want 500 smart and energetic Ladies to act as local and traveling Agents throughout the United States. They can easily clear six hundred dollars a year, if diligent to business.

All who wish to engage in this business will please address, Mrs. D. A. Inwood, East Somerville, Mass., inclosing a three cent stamp.

D. A. INWOOD.

PRICE OF DIAGRAMS.

For 100, $30.00; for 50, $17,50; for 25, $10.00; for 12, $6.00, and all less than 12, $1.00 each. The Book of Instructions and Tape Measures are included.

No Agents are allowed to undersell me, as by so doing they forfeit their agency.

Price of teaching Dress Cutting $2.50, and the whole $5.00. I state this so that all may know what to depend upon. It will make it better for Agents, as ladies will see that they can learn as cheap from agents as from myself.

Directions for Taking Measures.

First, take the size of the chest above the bust, meeting the tape straight across the shoulder-blades so that the lady may breathe freely. This will be as tight as required. Next, take the breast measure straight above the bust, the lady's shoulders being thrown back in order to get a broad chest measure, and set half the number of inches down. Next, take a back measure, the lady standing naturally. Measure straight across the shoulder-blades, and set half the number of inches down. Next, take a waist measure, which must be taken tight, and set it down. Next, measure the length of waist, from under the arm down to the waist, and allow the width of seam.

Directions for Drafting the Front of Dress.

If a lady's chest measures 32 inches, breast 18, waist 24, and length of waist 8, first double the lining, and draw a line 1½ inch from the selvage, to allow for hem. Next, lay the front scale on the line, and dot on the line corresponding with chest measure, and in the hole for neck corresponding with chest, and on the line for lower part of neck. Next, draw the neck with neck rule. Draw the shoulder with front shoulder rule, placing the point of rule on the neck dot, touching the lower dot. Next, measure from front line to lower dot, and make it half the width of breast measure. Next, place the number of arm size, the same as chest, upon the upper dot, and have it touching lower

dot, and draw to number 2 on the arm size. For all numbers under 26, draw to number 1; all under 33, draw to number 2; all under 40, draw to number 3; and all over 40, draw to number 4. Next, get the length of waist (8 inches), and draw bottom of waist to 24 on front waist scale. Next, get the length of bias, measuring $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches below the arm size, and $4\frac{1}{4}$ on the front line; then draw a line for the height of bias, making the front bias $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches from front line, and back bias three inches from front bias on upper line, and front bias $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch on waist line, leaving the biases half an inch apart, allowing nine inches for biases. Make the back bias always the largest, adding the width of biases beyond the waist measure. Draw the under arm seam with bias rule, point up; then draw the curve on the hip with bias rule. Biases must be varied according to the form of the lady. If three biases are required, divide them into three equal parts, the front biases only $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches from front line at top, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ on lower line.

Directions for Drafting the Back.

First, double the lining; then lay the back rule on the lining, and dot at the line corresponding with chest measure, and on the line for neck. Next, lift the scale and measure straight across the back, to lower dot, making the width of back half the back measure, then lay number 1 of back arm size on lower dot, touching upper dot, and draw from number 3 to upper dot. Next, get the length of waist, which is 8 inches, and draw the bottom of back with back waist measure to 24. Draw under arm seam with bias rule point up. Then form side seam in the back with basque rule. If the lady is hollow in back, take up a seam half an inch deep in middle of back. To cut a low neck, get

the length of shoulder, and dot it on the back and front shoulder seams. Draw the front with basque rule, and back with bias rule.

Directions for Cutting a Fan Waist.

This waist is cut plain on the shoulders and full at the waist. Draw neck and shoulder the same as lining. Place the arm size on upper dot and slip it back one inch from lower dot, in order to have a graceful front, and draw to 4 on the arm size, allowing two inches more for fullness than you have in biases; gather it and baste it on your front; have one inch less cloth in length on your front line of outside, so it will not sag. The beauty of a full waist consists in having the outside sit smooth. You often see dresses made well except this fault of sagging in front.

Directions for Cutting the Back.

First lay back lining on the outside and cut it one inch broader across the shoulders and three inches on the waist. Gather and baste it on the lining. After it is basted, trim the outside to the lining and baste front and back together. Fit it on the lady. It is easy to make alterations, if required, but with care it is very seldom you will have any to make.

Directions for Cutting Sleeves.

If a plain sleeve is required, have the arm bent. Measure from the shoulder, over the elbow, to the wrist, and on the inside of arm and round the wrist. Set your number of inches down, and cut it according to measure. It is well

to take measures always for length of sleeve, as you will save time and cloth by so doing.

Directions for Measuring Skirts.

Measure from bottom of waist, and if a sweep is required, make it one inch longer. Next, take the hips, right and left, as most ladies will take a skirt longer on one hip than on the other. Next, take front measure and have it quite short, so it will give a handsome sweep. Always make two halves of the skirt, putting half a yard more fullness in the back. In this way you will have a skirt hang well.

Directions for Cutting Yoke.

Draw a line on the front lining two inches below lower dot on arm size, to front line, and one inch below the point of shoulder on back arm size, to middle of back. This will give a deep yoke. If thick goods and outside plaited, it must be twice as full as lining; if gathered, not so full.

Directions for Children's Dresses.

Take the same measure as for ladies. Have the lining double, and lay front scale on the lining and dot in the holes corresponding with chest measure, and dot in the hole for neck, and line for lower part of neck. Place number 2 of neck on the front and draw the neck. Next, place number 2 of front shoulder rule on neck dot and draw to lower dot. Place number of arm size corresponding with chest on upper dot and draw to 1. Next, get the height of biases 1¼ inch from bottom of arm size, and 2½ inches on the front line, and 2 on waist line; allow 1 inch

for width of biases. Draw the under arm seam with bias rule, placing number 2 of rule on the bottom of arm size and allow 1 inch for width of seam under the arm. Draw the back the same as for ladies, only allow 1½ inch for width of hem. Sew the hooks and eyes 1 inch apart, leaving the eye side half an inch broader than hook side. This will bring the lap in the centre of back.

Directions for Boy's Clothes.

For a Full Waist or Spencer.

If a boy measures 25 inches around the the chest, 13 across the breast, 12 on the back, 24 around the waist and length of waist 6, draw it the same as for children's dresses, only make the back waist 26, and front 22. This gives a broader back. Allow 2 inches for fullness on the back, 3 inches on the front and 2 inches on the lower part of waist, instead of a belt. Plait or gather, according to fancy. Under the buttons, stay it with tape. Cut a full sleeve for this waist and gather it into a band at the wrist.

Pants to Correspond with Spencer Waist Measuring 24 Inches.

If a boy measures 28 inches in length of leg, 16 around the ankle, from ankle to crutch 21, from ankle to knee 13, around the knee 18, from crutch around the thigh to top of thigh bone, 22; from crutch to top of waist 8, width of front 8, length of back 10 and width of back 10; draft the lines on cloth according to measure, to get a good slope; place the basque rule 2 inches from back arm size on crutch, dot touching knee line; turn basque rule over and place it 1 inch from back arm size on crutch, dot and darw to waist dot. Make length of fly 6 inches and stay

it with lining. Draft the seat of pants with bias rule, placing number 2 of rule on crutch dot, touching waist dot, and draw top of back with bias rule, placing number 2 of rule on the back, and draw to outside of leg; plait back and front in three plaits. Have the waistband 2 inches wide and button holes to correspond with buttons on waist. Measures must be taken as loose as the pants are required. If for large boys, cut without fullness, if too large to have pants buttoned on the waist.

Directions for Drafting a Boy's Zouave Jacket.

If a boy measures 26 inches around the chest, breast 13, back 12, length of shoulder 6, size of waist 25, and length of waist 10, lay the cloth on the table double, not allowing for hem, as this garment is bound. Draft neck and shoulder the same as dress. After the shoulder is drawn, place the square end of the bias rule on neck dot, and dot at number 6 on shoulder line. Place number 26 of boys arm size on shoulder dot, even with breast dot, and draw to number 2 on arm size. Next, get length of waist 10 inches. Next, get size of waist, and allow 1 inch over the measure for front and back, in order to have it hang loose. Draw the bottom of front with basque rule, and the bottom of back with bias rule. Draw to number 3 on back arm size. Cut the sleeve by a fashionable pattern. This garment is to be worn with shirt or waist.

Directions for Drafting a Boy's Jacket.

If a boy's chest measures 28 inches, breast 14½, back 13, length of shoulder 7, size of waist 27, length of waist 8,

draft the front first, and allow it three inches longer below bottom of waist line for length of skirt and let it curve out half an inch from waist line to bottom of skirt. This curve is got with bias rule, and if square in front, draw it with bias rule, if round, with basque rule. Draw the curve for pocket with basque rule.

Directions for Drafting the Back.

Draw neck and shoulder the same as front. Draw back arm size to number 1. Next, get length of waist 8 inches. Place the square end of bias rule on back line and draw the centre of back 2 inches wide on waist line. Next, place basque rule on arm size dots, and draw to bottom of waist line. Slip the rule 1 inch down and draw the skirt half an inch wider on both lines of skirt than waist line. Get side piece with basque rule, and make it three sizes larger than front at the bottom of back. Draw the bottom of skirt with bias rule.

Directions for Cutting the Jacket Sleeve.

If the arm measures 18 inches over the elbow, 15 on the inside, 14 at the shoulder, and 10 at the wrist, first draw the outside line 18 inches and make a dot in the center of line for elbow. Draw a line 6½ inches for width of sleeve at elbow. Next, get length of sleeve, (15 inches) having 7½ each side of elbow line and 5 inches for size of wrist, and 7 for top of sleeve. Form the top of sleeve with basque rule, and with the same, hollow out the under part of sleeve. This sleeve can be cut without a seam on the inside, if preferred.

Directions for Cutting a Boy's Sack Coat.

Take measures the same as for jacket, omitting the waist measure. Draft neck, shoulder and arm size the same as jacket. Place the square end of bias on front line even with arm size dot, and see how many inches it measures from front to under arm seam, and allow 2 inches more for fullness on the bottom of skirt. Draw the under arm seam with bias rule, and bottom of skirt with the same. Draft the back the same as front, and allow 1½ inch at the bottom for fullness. Draft the sleeve the same as for jacket. This garment may be worn with or without the collar.

Directions for Drafting a Girl's Sack Cloak.

Take two measures—chest and length of skirt. Take a loose chest measure. If the chest measures 27 inches and length of skirt 20, place the front scale on the front line and dot on the corresponding lines for neck and chest. Draw neck and shoulder the same as girl's dress. Place 27 of arm size on the upper dot and slip it back half an inch from lower dot, in order to have it hang loose. Next, take length of skirt (20 inches), and dot for length of skirt. Next, place the square end of bias rule on the front line and measure to the end of arm size, and allow 7 inches for fullness on the bottom line. Draw the under arm and bottom seams with bias rule. Draft the back the same as front, and allow 6 inches for fullness on the bottom of skirt. Cut the sleeve and collar according to the fashion.

Ladies' Sack Cloaks are cut in the same way, allowing fullness in proportion to the size of person.

Directions for Drafting a Basque.

Draft waist part the same as dress, only three-fourths of an inch shorter, and make the biases straighter than for dresses. Place the square end of bias rule at the bottom of frill, having it extend straight up to the top of bias, and make a dot at the center of bias rule, placing the point of bias rule on the line at the bottom of each side of bias and draw to frill dot. Next, get length of frill on the hips. If the length of frill is 6 inches make it 5 inches fuller at the bottom than it is at the waist line. Draw the frill with bias rule, and take up a seam at the bottom of waist from under arm seam to back bias. In this way the front will sit well. Draft the back of basque the same on neck and shoulders as dress. Draw the back arm size to number 1. Next, take length of waist from bottom of arm size, making the center piece three-fourths of an inch shorter than length of waist, as it will be too long if cut the same length as waist measures under the arm, it being cut by a curve rule. Place the point of basque rule at the bottom of arm size and draw to waist line, making the frill 5 inches wide at the bottom and 1 inch on the waist line. Draft the frill with bias rule. Next, get the side piece, placing basque on a straight line, and draw rest of back arm size, and curve to waist line. Next, get length of waist from bottom of arm size, the same as front, and allow 4 inches at the bottom of side piece for fullness. Make the back of basque 3 sizes broader than front at the bottom of waist, taking it off the front; this will bring the seam well under the arm, which is necessary for all jacket waists.

Directions for Taking Shirt Measures.

Take the chest measure loose. Next, take the breast and back measure, size of neck, length of shoulder, length of arm from shoulder to wrist, size of wrist and size of arm at the shoulder.

Directions for Drafting the Front.

Double the cloth, and dot at the lines corresponding with chest measure. Next, get length of shoulder. Draw neck and shoulder the same as boy's jacket. Place basque rule on shoulder dot, and draw to bottom of arm size, making the arm size 4 inches larger than the arm measures round. Set the bosom in and hollow it out by the piece that comes out of the front of neck.

Directions for Drafting the Back.

Double the cloth, placing the back scale on the cloth, and dot at the lines corresponding with chest measure. Draw the shoulder and neck the same as boy's jacket. Place the basque rule on shoulder dot, and draw to bottom of arm size. The back must be cut wider than front. It is well to face it two inches below the arm size. Cut the sleeve to suit yourself. This cuts a plain sack shirt. If a yoke is preferred, it can be cut by allowing two inches of the front part of neck, and two inches at the arm size. This will bring the seam well over in front. If the neck is not as large as required, cut it out all around, as it is apt to be too high in the neck.

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